

MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

May 4, 2009

One Weekend, 26 Alcohol and Drug Related Arrests

Franklin Police Working to Keep Your Roadways, Your Community Safe

Franklin, TN – Franklin, TN – This weekend, Franklin Police made 26 arrests for alcohol and drug offenses. The offenses, detailed below, all occurred between this past Friday and Sunday and include Public Intoxication, Open Container, Drug Possession, DUI, Violation of Implied Consent, and Underage Drinking.

Friday, 05/01/2009

4:05 p.m.	William Forrest, 51, of Lewisburg	An officer observed Forrest drinking an alcoholic beverage while driving down West Main Street near Natchez Street. Forrest was charged with DUI, and Violation of Implied Consent.
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Saturday, 05/02/2009

12:45 a.m.	17-year-old male of Franklin 16-year-old male of Franklin	An officer observed a 17-year-old male fail to yield the right of way at Murfreesboro Road and Jordan Road. A case of beer was found in the back seat of the vehicle, also occupied by a second subject – a 16-year-old male. The driver was charged with DUI, Possession of Marijuana and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. The passenger was charged with Underage Consumption of Alcohol.
1:17 a.m.	Dustin McEarchern, 22 of Georgia	An officer observed McEarchern driving erratically on Cool Springs Boulevard near Wyndcross Court. McEarchern was arrested for DUI and Driving on a Suspended License (suspended for a 10/22/2008 DUI).
7:07 p.m.	16-year-old male of Franklin	Officers observed a 16-year-old male blocking traffic and then driving erratically on Natchez Street near Grandbury Street. The odor of burnt marijuana was emanating from the vehicle after officer stopped the driver. Marijuana was found in the vehicle. The driver and sole occupant was charged with DUI and Possession of Marijuana.
7:45 p.m.	Melvin Ellison, 55, of Franklin	Ellison was arrested for Public Intoxication after walking down the street on 9 th Avenue near Johnson Alley yelling profanities at officers patrolling the area. Investigating officers found Ellison to be intoxicated to the point that he was unable to care for his own safety.

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Sunday, 05/03/2009

12:31 a.m.	Jack King, 54, of Chicago	King was arrested and charged with Public Intoxication after an officer observed him walking on an I-65 exit ramp at Murfreesboro Road, carrying a partial 12-pack of beer. The arresting officer determined that King, who was unsteady on his feet and had slurred speech, was unable to care for his own safety.
1:17 a.m.	Eric Johnson, 20, of Franklin Austin Collier, 18, of Franklin Matthew Seybold, 18 of Franklin Christopher Willis-Blatz, 18, of Franklin Jonathan Jones, 18, of Franklin Emmanuel Martinez, 19, of Franklin Josiah Berger, 18, of Franklin	These seven men were arrested, cited, and released (to a safe ride) for Underage Consumption of Alcohol at a large gathering at 667 Watson Glen Drive.
1:35 a.m.	William Bournes, 28, of Murfreesboro	An officer observed Bournes run a red light at Galleria Boulevard and Bakers Bridge Avenue. Bournes was charged with Disobeying a Traffic Control Device and DUI.
2:06 a.m.	16-year-old female of College Grove Christopher Baird, 19, of Franklin Spencer Cope, 20, of Franklin Timothy Tracy, 19, of Franklin	An officer observed the vehicle, driven by Baird, driving erratically on Mack Hatcher near South Royal Oaks Boulevard. A bottle of rum was found in the vehicle. All four subjects had been drinking. Baird, Cope, and Tracy were arrested, cited, and released (to a safe ride) for Underage Consumption. The juvenile was charged with Underage Consumption and released to her father.
2:23 a.m.	Scott Nighan, 37, of Franklin	An officer observed Nighan run a red light at Cool Springs Boulevard and Carothers Parkway. Nighan was charged with DUI.
4:21 a.m.	Chase Givens, 20, of Franklin Benjamin Zulfer, 20, of Franklin Aaron Hill, 19, of Franklin	An officer stopped Givens for speeding and failing to signal a turn on S. Royal Oaks Boulevard and Mack Hatcher. Open alcohol was observed in the vehicle, and all three men were found to have been drinking. All three were arrested, cited, and released for Underage Consumption of Alcohol.

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9:12 p.m.	Rhonda Mullins, 38, of Elizabethton	Mullins was arrested, charged with Public Intoxication after causing a disturbance at the Cool Springs Marriott, where she was a guest. Hotel staff reported that Mullins was drunk, in the lobby – yelling at patrons and throwing candy at them. Officers escorted Mullins to her room where they asked her to remain for the rest of the evening. Approximately 30 minutes later, officers had to return to the Marriott after it was reported that Mullins was out of her room, creating another disturbance. She was arrested after it was determined that she was unable to care for her own safety.
10:14 p.m.	Logan Williams, 20, of Franklin	An officer stopped Williams for speeding on Mack Hatcher near Liberty Pike and observed open alcohol. Williams was arrested, cited, and released for Underage Consumption and speeding.
11:58 p.m.	Charles Robinson, 52, of Franklin	An officer observed Robinson driving erratically on Liberty Pike near Franklin Road. Open alcohol was observed in the vehicle, along with unauthorized prescription drugs. Robinson was arrested and charged with DUI, Violation of the Implied Consent Law, and Simple Possession of a Schedule II Drug.

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All 26 of these arrests came as a result of regular patrol operations. While a portion of the arrests can attributed to area after-prom festivities, many were completely unrelated.

Impaired driving and impaired-related crashes constitute one of the nation's leading health problems. These events result in more deaths each year than do total homicides, and alcohol is a factor in 35% of all crashes in the United States (http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/ghso/booze_lose.htm).

The Franklin Police Department will continue to be vigilant in our efforts to keep impaired drivers off of our roadways.

“Over the Limit, Under Arrest”

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